



BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER
1974


BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

1974



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28930654>

I N D E X

	<u>Page</u>
Animal Welfare	23
Atmospheric Pollution	9
Caravan Sites	21
Cesspools	6
Drainage	6
Factories	23
Food Inspection	15
General Statistics	5
Hairdressing Establishments	23
Health & Safety at Work	22
Housing	20
Icecream	12
Infectious Diseases	17
Inspection of Premises	6
Introduction	2
Meat Inspection	12
Milk Supply	11
Noise Control	20
Notices	7
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	22
Pail Closets	6
Pest Control	8
Poultry Inspection	12
Smoke Control	9
Staff	1
Water Supply	5

oooooooooooooooooooo
 oooooooooo
 o

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Officers and Staff

1st January to 31st March, 1974

<u>CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:</u>	J.J.Galsworthy (retired 31.3.74)
<u>DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:</u>	A.J.Slipp
<u>ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:</u>	R.R.Blaylock (retired 31.3.74) P.J.Henze F.Richards J.Shattock (resigned 31.3.74)
<u>AUTHORISED MEAT INSPECTOR:</u>	F.Pope
<u>GENERAL ASSISTANT:</u>	R.C.Liggins
<u>RODENT OPERATOR:</u>	J.Smith
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Mrs.M.A.Grey
<u>CLERK/TYPIST:</u>	Mrs.L.M.Tolton
<u>JUNIOR CLERK:</u>	Miss A.A.King

1st April to 31st December, 1974

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER:</u>	D.Murray (appointed 1.2.74)
<u>DEPUTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER:</u>	A.J.Slipp
<u>PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT HEALTH OFFICERS:</u>	F.J.Andrews (appointed 3.6.74) A.Marsden (appointed 9.9.74) F.Richards (resigned 31.8.74)
<u>ASSISTANT HEALTH OFFICERS:</u>	R.P.Brailsford (appointed 28.8.74) P.J.Henze P.C.Minhinnett (appointed 16.9.74) J.Pinkstone (appointed 4.11.74)
<u>AUTHORISED MEAT INSPECTORS:</u>	G. Coe (appointed 25.7.74) Miss J. O'Connor (appointed 2.9.74) F.Pope (resigned 30.6.74)
<u>TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS:</u>	R.C.Liggins J.Smith
<u>PUPIL HEALTH OFFICER:</u>	D.E.Eccles (appointed 2.9.74)
<u>PERSONAL ASSISTANT:</u>	Mrs.M.A.Grey
<u>CLERK/TYPIST:</u>	Mrs.L.M.Tolton
<u>JUNIOR CLERK:</u>	Miss A.A.King

00000000000000000000
0000000000
0

To the Chairman and Members of the
Blaby District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my first Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department.

INTRODUCTION

The motto of the Environmental Health Officers' Association is "Amicus Humani Generis", which can be translated as "Friends of the Human Race". This motto emphasises the fact that although the task of a Health Officer is to control and improve the environment, it is really people that matter.

The duties and functions of the Public Health Department can be seen from the information given in the main body of the report. By endeavouring to improve the houses, workplaces, the general surroundings (including the atmosphere) and ensuring there is a safe and wholesome food and water supply, a major part is being played in helping the populace to reach the modern definition of health which is "a state of complete physical, mental and social well being".

I was appointed in November, 1973, and immediately became involved in the workings of the District Council, although I did not take up formal duties until the 1st February, 1974. It was gratifying that at their meeting in April, the Health and Welfare Committee adopted the following objectives:-

(a). General Objectives

- 1). To safeguard and where possible improve the environment so far as it affects the health and physical well being of the local population in the home, the workplace, or at leisure.
- 2). Achieve the highest standards of service to the public in the abatement of nuisances and the carrying out of statutory duties.
- 3). Support the Council's professional staff in carrying out duties to achieve both these general and the immediate objectives.

(b). Specific Immediate Objectives

- (1). To provide for the prompt abatement of general environmental nuisances and identify and control other environmental hazards that may arise.
- (2). To ensure satisfactory standards of food handling and safety (including water supplies).
- (3). To reduce the level of atmospheric pollution.
- (4). To reduce and prevent noise nuisances.
- (5). To reduce the incidence of infestation by pests.
- (6). To prevent and control outbreaks of infectious diseases.
- (7). To enforce the statutory minimum standards in places of work.
- (8). To promote Health Education.
- (9). To foster research into matters of environmental health significance both in the District and on a national basis.

Similarly, it was equally pleasing that the Planning, Development and Conservation Committee at its February meeting, accepted a number of suggested objectives, the ones relevant to the Health Department being -

1. To protect and improve the physical environment of the District by conserving and enhancing what is good, securing that what is bad is removed or improved and that provision is made for new developments of the kind and in the places needed.
2. To review the record of dwellings in the District and prepare a programme for the declaration of clearance areas, or the making of closing or demolition orders in respect of the remaining dwellings unfit for habitation and incapable of being made so fit, and the declaration of improvement areas.

In view of the progressive policies adopted by the Council and the commitments and volume of work necessary, the Establishment Sub-Committee took an enlightened view and authorised the appointment of two Principal Assistant Health Officers. In addition, the job specifications of the Assistant Health Officers were varied to give each of them specialist responsibilities with a salary scale at a realistic level having regard to the qualifications and duties of the posts.

On the 1st April, when the Blaby District Council assumed all executive functions, the staff of the Department was sadly below strength, but I am pleased to relate that between June and November, all the vacancies were filled. That this was achieved despite the national shortage of qualified Public Health Officers, was due partly to the salary levels, but mainly to the work content offered obviously able to give job satisfaction to the applicants.

Although there was a staff shortage for a considerable part of the year, substantial progress has been made in the various spheres of activity. It has been a period of consolidation. All essential matters have been dealt with as they arose and schedules of work and programmes prepared in respect of housing, food, atmospheric pollution, noise, pest control and places of work. These schedules are now in operation and surveys being carried out consistent with the aims and objectives of the several Committees.

I would like to thank all Chairmen of Committees and the other elected representatives too for the excellent support they have given me during the year. All members of staff are also to be highly commended for the way they have settled down in working for the new authority and for the competent manner they have carried out all the duties I have asked them to do.

With a full complement of officers ready and willing to carry out the Council's policies, I look forward to 1975 with enthusiasm confident that the environment will be further enhanced for the benefit of all those people who live or work in the Blaby District.

D. Murray
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	32,212 acres
Number of Parishes	23
Estimated Population	77,979
Number of Occupied Dwellings	26,068

2. WATER SUPPLY

Mains water is supplied to every parish in the District and regular routine samples were taken from the supply in the various parishes and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination; all samples taken during the year were reported to be bacteriologically satisfactory for drinking and dietetic purposes.

The water is of medium hardness (150 - 170 parts per million) and accordingly, there is no plumbo-solvency.

Some complaints continued to be made by residents of discoloured water due to suspended iron matter from the water mains, and the Water Department took steps to improve the supply by flushing out the mains and service pipes.

There is a private piped water supply from a quarry source to a factory in the District and regular samples were taken. The water is passed through a small treatment plant at the works before being used for drinking purposes and, except in one instance, samples taken of the treated water were reported to be satisfactory.

Eight samples were taken from storage tanks at slaughterhouses, and in one instance the supply was found to be unsatisfactory; after the tank had been cleaned and properly protected a subsequent sample showed the water as being satisfactory.

Two shallow wells were sampled and in both cases proved to be unsatisfactory. In the first instance, the well served two houses subject to demolition orders, where one of the occupants has since been re-housed and the remaining occupant has been advised to boil all water. In the second case, the well was located in a factory where the water was not intended to be used for drinking purposes, although a subsequent sample showed the water to be satisfactory.

It is thought that there may be approximately 50 houses still served by wells and an effort is being made to trace these and check the quality of the water.

3. DRAINAGE

During the year, 737 complaints were received concerning drainage, and the majority of these were dealt with by the two Technical Assistants, working in co-operation with the appropriate Assistant Health Officer. Most of the complaints related to obstructions and 579 drains were cleared, whilst another 174 drainage systems were examined and a further 30 tested.

Obstructed drains are usually cleared as a free service as the best means of dealing quickly with a serious public health nuisance, but in a few cases it was found necessary to make a charge, particularly where the drain had to be exposed.

Pail Closets and Cesspools

Only between 22 to 32 pail closets, depending on the season, are now emptied by the Technical Department as part of a regular service, some of them being situated at caravans and others at properties where there is no public sewer available.

The 333 cesspools and small private sewage disposal plants in the District, were emptied as a statutory service by the Council once every three months and when required more frequently, a charge being made for any additional service.

4. INSPECTION OF PREMISES

INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS

Food Control

Bakehouses and Bakers' Vans	12
Butchers and Butchers' Vans	47
Cafes, Canteens and Kitchens	79
Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Vehicles	11
Fish Premises and Vans	9
Food Complaints	70
Food Preparing Premises	5
Food Shops	182
Food Warehouses	14
Licensed Premises	35
Market Gardens	1
Mobile Food Vans	4
Poultry preparing Premises	86
Slaughterhouses	1,613
TOTAL:	2,168

General Environmental Health

Accumulations	98
Animal Keeping and Pet Shops	134
Caravans	84
Council Houses	3
Ditches, Streams and Ponds	211
Drainage	1,659
Dwelling Houses	3,250
Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers	76
Farm Premises	29
Food Poisoning	106
Hairdressers	13
Infectious Diseases.. .. .	172
Launderettes	-
Lay-bys	5
Noise Act	251
Open Spaces and Refuse Tips.. .. .	71
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	127
Owners/Contractors Interviewed	86
Petroleum Storage	53
Piggeries	13
Poultry Premises	9
Public Buildings and Public Conveniences	35
Refuse Bins.. .. .	28
Rodent Control	2,308
Schools	6
Scrap Yards.. .. .	10
Swimming Pools	2
Smoke Control	773
Unclassified	314
Water Supply	77
TOTAL:	7,695

The total number of complaints received and recorded in the Register during the year was 2,115.

PRELIMINARY OR INFORMAL NOTICES ISSUED

	Public Health	Housing
Outstanding on 1st January	255	23
Issued during year	897	44
Complied with during year	881	56
Outstanding 31st December	271	11

Total informal Notices issued 941

Total informal Notices complied with 937

5. PEST CONTROL

During the year some reorganisation took place and the two Technical Assistants, working under the supervision of an Assistant Health Officer with special responsibility in Pest Control, were given all the pest control complaints to deal with on an allocated district, as well as drainage complaints, instead of having separate duties throughout the whole district as previously.

Each of the two Assistants is provided with a van and is therefore able to carry with him at all times any equipment needed for all aspects of pest control or drainage, and when the council office extensions are completed there will be a properly designed poisons and mixing room complying with all safety requirements, with adequate storage facilities for materials and equipment, which, together with the procedural alterations already outlined, will give the Department the resources and ability to plan effective measures of control.

The objectives in this field are:-

- (a) to investigate all complaints of insect pests, rats and mice promptly and to carry out a free treatment where necessary at domestic premises and at business premises for a charge;
- (b) a planned systematic treatment of all the sewers in the District for the control of rats;
- (c) an extension of the contract scheme to cover as many business premises as possible within the resources of the Department;
- (d) to promote a programme for rat free areas by the establishment of permanent baiting points.

In addition to work carried out in conjunction with rodent control, advice and assistance was given in 118 cases following complaints of infestation by flies, ants and other insect pests, and disinfestation treatment was carried out at 220 premises for the destruction of wasps' nests.

INSPECTION OF PREMISES FOR RODENT CONTROL

DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES	Complaints		Total Visits
	Rats	Mice	
Private Dwelling Houses	560	111	2,013
Business Premises	55	21	218
Farm and Agricultural Premises	3	-	10
Council Premises	12	-	41
Refuse Tips	1	-	12
Sewage Works	1	-	14
TOTAL:	632	132	2,308

Sewer Treatments

Owing to staff shortages the foul sewers were not regularly treated for rodent destruction by baiting in the manholes, but with the co-operation of the Technical Department, a programme was commenced towards the end of the year using fluoracetamide and will continue as an item of priority in the campaign against rats.

6. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Smoke Control Areas

Since the Council commenced its Smoke Control Programme in 1961, steady progress has been maintained with further Smoke Control Areas being established contiguous with each other on the eastern side of the District linking with existing Smoke Control Areas of the City of Leicester.

On the 1st July, the Braunstone, Lubbesthorpe and Enderby (part), No. 8 Smoke Control Order came into force.

Smoke Control Areas and Orders in operation up to the present time are as follows:-

No.	AREA	ORDER IN FORCE	No. of Houses	Other Premises	Acreage
2	GLEN PARVA East Lubbesthorpe Ward	1st November, 1963	209	3	78
3	GLEN PARVA North Ward (part)	1st October, 1966	396	9	95
4	GLEN PARVA North Ward (remainder)	1st August, 1968	376	20	305
5	BRAUNSTONE & ENDERBY (part)	1st August, 1969	450	20	392
6	BRAUNSTONE (part)	1st October, 1971	839	24	146
7	BRAUNSTONE (part)	1st November, 1972	1,074	11	112
8	BRAUNSTONE, LUBBESTHORPE & ENDERBY (part)	1st July, 1974	1,107	14	753

The preliminary survey for the Braunstone and Leicester Forest East No. 9 Smoke Control Area was completed in preparation for the full survey as part of the continuing Smoke Control Programme.

Atmospheric Pollution Measurement

a). Volumetric Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide Samplers

In order to ascertain the levels of sulphur dioxide and particulate matter in the atmosphere, volumetric sampling apparatus is used, the principle being to draw a measured quantity of air continuously through a filter paper for twenty-four hours where the particulate matter is deposited, and then to pass the air through a neutral solution of hydrogen peroxide where sulphur dioxide in the air combines with the peroxide to form sulphuric acid. After twenty-four hours a new filter and sampler is automatically brought into use.

The bottles are collected weekly and titrations carried out by the Principal Assistant Health Officer. To each bottle a known strength of alkali is added and the quantity used to neutralise the acid enables a calculation to be made of the amount of daily sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

The daily filter papers are also removed and the dark stains produced by the particles entrapped are measured with a reflectometer allowing the total suspended matter to be calculated. Again, this is done in our own laboratory.

The results are tabulated and the records also forwarded to the Warren Spring Laboratory for use in the National Survey on Atmospheric Pollution.

b). Standard Deposit Gauges

The principle of the standard deposit gauge is that solid matter in the atmosphere brought down to earth in the rainfall, is collected in a standard sized bowl/bottle over a given period, usually one month, after which time it is analysed to quantify the material deposited, the analysis being carried out by the Public Analyst at Wanlip.

Standard deposit gauges have been set up in Glen Parva and Enderby to monitor pollution from the newly installed refuse incinerator, although it is anticipated that any effects will be minimal.

It is also proposed to install three further deposit gauges at suitable sites at Croft and Huncote during 1975, to measure the quantities of solid matter deposited as an indication of the pollution attributable to the quarry workings.

7. INSPECTION OF FOOD SUPPLY

Milk Supply

Dairies and Distribution

There are eighty-seven dairy farms in the District, most of the milk produced being sent outside the District to large dairies for pasteurisation. Only three producers retail their milk in the District, the rest of the milk retailed being distributed by large dairy firms.

The number of Distributors on the Register at the end of the year was:-

(a) Producer-Retailers (milk produced in District)	3
(b) Distributors (from premises in District)	4
(c) Distributors (from shops retailing bottled milk in District)	101
(d) Distributors (from premises outside District)	6
TOTAL;	<u>114</u>

Milk Samples

Six samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and two samples taken for biological examination.

	Satisfactory	Failed Methylene Blue Test
Pasteurised Milk	3	0
Untreated Milk	0	2
Sterilised Milk	1	0

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION (Untreated Milk)

- 2 - Satisfactory (no evidence of tuberculosis or brucella abortus)

7. (continued)

Icecream

No icecream is manufactured in the District, but 123 premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed icecream.

Nine samples of icecream were taken during the year, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

8	(GRADE 1)	-	Satisfactory
1	(GRADE 3)	-	Unsatisfactory

Meat Inspection

During the year 1,565 visits were made to five private slaughterhouses in the District, wherein 33,344 animals were slaughtered.

Two Authorised Meat Inspectors are on duty full-time five days a week, and occasionally on Saturday mornings, carrying out meat inspection at five slaughterhouses in the District, with support from the Health Officers when necessary.

The maintenance of slaughterhouses and the control of slaughtering and carcase preparation to satisfactory hygienic standards requires constant vigil by the Department, and in addition to information supplied by the Authorised Meat Inspectors, periodic visits are made by one of the Principal Assistant Health Officers with special responsibility for food, and where necessary, notices are served requiring improvements to be effected.

Routine visits were made to one poultry preparing premises with an average weekly kill of 350 birds which are not eviscerated. During the year 15,266 birds were killed, of which 441 were rejected as unfit, the total weight condemned being 672 lbs.

Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, twenty-five Licences were issued to Slaughtermen for the slaughtering of animals.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED						
	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total Weight in lbs.
Number killed	8,626	446	9	22,673	1,589	-
Number inspected	8,626	446	9	22,673	1,589	-
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcase condemned	7	7	1	15	2	4,060
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	2,883	97	-	683	106	33,921
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerici	33%	23%	11%	3%	7%	-
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	11	148
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.69%	-
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-	-	85
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CONDEMNED MEAT
Tuberculosis

Part or Offal	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Carcase meat	-	-	-	-	-
Heads and tongues	-	-	-	-	11

OTHER DISEASES

PART OR OFFAL	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
<u>CARCASE AND OFFAL</u>					
Ascites	-	-	-	1	-
Asphyxia	-	-	-	2	-
Bruising	-	-	-	1	-
Emaciation	1	2	-	2	-
Enteritis	2	-	-	-	-
Fever	2	1	-	2	-
Lymphosarcoma	1	-	-	-	-
Multiple Arthritis	-	-	-	3	-
Oedema	-	3	-	3	-
Pyæmia	-	-	-	1	-
Septicaemia	1	-	-	-	-
Septic Arthritis	-	-	-	1	-
Septic Metritis	-	1	-	-	-
Septic Peritonitis	-	-	1	-	-
Septic Pleurisy	-	-	-	-	1
Swine Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1
<u>CARCASE MEAT</u>					
Abscessed	-	1	-	6	1
Arthritis	1	1	-	9	-
Bruising	13	-	-	3	1
Fibrosis	1	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	-	-	-	1	-
Septic Pleurisy	1	-	-	-	-
<u>HEADS & TONGUES</u>					
Abscessed	19	-	-	-	-
Actinomycosis	21	-	-	-	-
Cysticercus Bovis	3	-	-	-	-
Fibrosis	1	-	-	-	-
Parasites	23	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	11
<u>HEARTS</u>					
Abscessed	2	1	-	-	1
Cysticercus Bovis	2	-	-	-	-
Hydatid Cysts	3	-	-	-	-
Parasites	24	-	-	16	-
Pericarditis	56	-	-	-	25
<u>INTESTINES</u>					
Abscessed	21	-	-	-	-
Parasites	3	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	11	-	-	-	1
<u>KIDNEYS</u>					
Abscessed	15	2	-	-	-
Fatty Degeneration	4	-	-	-	-
Hydronephrosis	52	-	-	-	-
Nephritis	41	-	-	-	-

OTHER DISEASES

PART OR OFFAL	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
<u>LIVERS</u>					
Abscessed	785	11	-	14	2
Fascioliasis	1,292	60	-	8	-
Hydatid Cysts	7	2	-	-	-
Parasites	14	-	-	504	19
Peritonitis	5	-	-	-	3
Telangiectasis	2	-	-	-	-
<u>LUNGS</u>					
Abscessed	6	-	-	2	1
Fascioliasis	-	-	-	2	-
Parasites	-	-	-	109	-
Pleurisy	282	10	-	9	48
Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	3
<u>SKIRTS</u>					
Abscessed	12	1	-	-	-
Peritonitis	8	-	-	-	-
<u>SPLEENS</u>					
Abscessed	11	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	58	-	-	-	-
<u>STOMACHS</u>					
Abscessed	21	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	13	-	-	-	1
<u>UDDERS</u>					
Abscessed	-	4	-	-	-
Brucellosis (Reactor)	-	2	-	-	-
Mastitis	-	2	-	-	-

Food Inspection Other Than Meat

Food traders regularly call upon the Public Health Officers to give an opinion on the fitness of foodstuffs for human consumption, and when an article of food is found to be unfit it is condemned and voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

FOODS CONDEMNED AND SURRENDERED

	Approximate Weight
372 tins canned fruit	575 lbs.
39 tins canned meat	173 lbs.
896 packets frozen vegetables	532 lbs.
431 packets frozen fish	217 lbs.
839 packets frozen meat and meat products	539 lbs.
606 packets frozen icecream, mousse, etc.	972 lbs.
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>2,808 lbs.</u>

Food Complaints

Thirty two complaints were received during the year of alleged unsatisfactory foodstuffs; all were thoroughly investigated, the complainants and the retailers interviewed, and where appropriate wholesalers and representatives of the manufacturers concerned contacted and interviewed.

In all cases, except one, the circumstances were found to be such that it was felt that formal action was not warranted, and accordingly these were dealt with informally to the entire satisfaction of the complainants. In the remaining one case of a fly in a pre-packed ice-cream, this was felt to be more serious and at the end of the year a report was being prepared for submission to the Health and Welfare Committee.

Food Premises

Regular routine visits were made to premises in which food is prepared, retailed and stored, as well as vans used for the sale and delivery of food in the District to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

It was not found necessary to take any formal action for breach of the Regulations, but minor infringements were dealt with verbally during the inspections, sometimes followed by informal notices being sent.

There is an increasing and welcome public awareness of food hazards and the action of shoppers in helping to keep the Public Health Department informed of any lowering of standards, both in the preparation of foodstuffs and in the appearance of premises, is one to be commended; fortunately, the majority of traders are only too willing to co-operate in the recommendations of the Public Health Inspectorate, although a policy of persuasion which brings dividends in the long run often creates an increased work load in the short term.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

	Visits	Notices Issued	Notices Complied
Bakehouses and Bakers' Vans	12	1	-
Butchers and Butchers' Vans	47	8	3
Cafes, Canteens and Kitchens	79	7	18
Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Vehicles	11	-	-
Fish Premises and Vans	9	2	2
Food Shops	182	17	13
Food Manufacturers and Warehouses	19	1	-
Licensed Premises	35	3	3
Market Gardens	1	1	1
Mobile Food Vans	4	1	1
Poultry Preparing Premises	86	-	-
TOTALS:	485	41	41

8. INFECTIOUS DISEASES & FOOD POISONING

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total number of cases of infectious diseases
notified during the year 1974

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED AT AGES								
	At All Ages	Under 1 Year	1 - 4 Yrs.	5 - 14 Yrs.	15 - 24 Yrs.	25 - 44 Yrs.	45 - 64 Yrs.	65 & Upw- ards	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	6	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	16	-	7	9	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	6	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	3	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	11	-	-	2	1	7	1	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR THE YEAR 1974

PARISH	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Measles	Typhoid Fever	Malaria	Dysentery	Infective jaundice	Food Poi- soning	Enceph- alitis	Pul- monary T.B.	Other Forms T.B.	Menin- gitis	TOTAL
Aston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blaby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Braunstone	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	1	10
Cosby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Countesthorpe	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Croft	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Elmesthorpe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enderby	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	8
Glenfield	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	4
Glen Parva	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Huncote	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
Kilby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kirby Muxloe	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leicester	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Forest East	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leicester	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forest West	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lubbesthorpe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Potters	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Narborough	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	6
Sapcote	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharnford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stoney	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stanton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thurlaston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whetstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wigston Parva	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	4	16	-	-	2	3	11	-	1	2	6	51

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Average per Year in Triennial Periods

	1952 -	1955 -	1958 -	1961 -	1964 -	1957 -	1970 -	1973 -	1974 -
	1954	1957	1960	1963	1966	1969	1972		
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	34	15	33	12	19	8	4	3	6
Whooping Cough	111	87	29	19	13	13	5	1	4
Measles	232	540	342	665	720	635	195	355	16
Pneumonia	46	46	7	4	-	0.3	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	0.7	-	2	0.7	0.3	2	1.6	2	6
Poliomyelitis	1.3	1.3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	40	50	25	12	14	4	-	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0.3	-	-	-	-	0.7	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.3	7	3
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	10	2	3	12	1	0.3	5.3	7	11

During the year there were 51 notifications of infectious disease. The figure for 1973 was 388.

DYSENTERY

There were two cases of dysentery notified. The table below shows the fluctuation which occurs from year to year.

1963	-	9 cases	1969	-	4 cases
1964	-	5 cases	1970	-	0 cases
1965	-	29 cases	1971	-	0 cases
1966	-	9 cases	1972	-	0 cases
1967	-	0 cases	1973	-	1 case
1968	-	7 cases	1974	-	2 cases

FAECES SAMPLES

In connection with enquiries into certain notified Infectious Diseases and suspected Food Poisoning, 277 visits were made and 98 samples collected and delivered to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

9. NOISE CONTROL

With the increasing public concern over noise, the Department has become more involved in not only existing problems, but in consultation at the early planning stages of sources likely to give rise to noise nuisance. In all, a total of 24 complaints were received necessitating 251 visits being made, which were all dealt with informally, and new equipment complying with the British Standard has been purchased and is in use monitoring noise levels around the District.

The most significant change in respect of noise will be the power of Local Authorities to make Noise Abatement Zones, an item welcomed by the Noise Abatement Society, and other provisions will include greater control on construction sites, including the need for prior consent, and the right of a single occupier to take private action instead of it being necessary for three persons to be aggrieved by noise as previously.

An extensive survey commenced towards the end of the year in the villages of Huncote and Croft where the noise from the workings at the English China Clay Quarry still provokes the single major source of noise complaints. Day-time and night-time readings will be taken and noise levels will be plotted on plans producing contours indicating the noise levels being experienced by residents.

Consultations have taken place with the management of the quarry and it is anticipated that during 1975 discussions will take place with them on the report by their noise consultants on ways of reducing the noise from the various equipment on the site.

10. HOUSING

Due to previous staff shortages, up-to-date records of the condition of the older houses within the District were not available and so a detailed survey was commenced during the year. When completed, the information gained will form the basis for any General Improvement Areas the Council may wish to consider, and in any event, even without the promotion of improvement areas, will enable the Department to take appropriate action in respect of sub-standard houses.

Any action taken in respect of individual houses, or small groups of houses, will be with the aim of encouraging owners to take advantage of the new grant system incorporated in the Housing Act 1974, which, in certain cases will enable a maximum grant of £1,850 to be made.

Now that the worst of the houses in the District have been dealt with by demolition, it is hoped that future trends will be on preservation rather than clearance. In this connection, however, many landlords of tenanted properties find themselves unable to finance repairs and improvements, and the degree to which the Council should become involved in municipalisation is something requiring careful consideration.

10. (continued)

During the year the provisions of the Housing Finance Act 1972, which amended the Housing Act 1969 (by gradually bringing houses out of rent control on a rateable value basis), began to take effect in connection with qualification certificates, and as a result only one application was received.

Inspection of Houses During Year

Houses inspected for housing defects	626
Inspections made for such purpose	1,377
Houses fully inspected for improvements	134
Houses found to be unfit for habitation	9

Number of Demolition or Closing Orders made	9
Number of houses demolished	18
Number of persons rehoused from unfit houses	32
Number of families rehoused from unfit houses	17

Repair of Houses

Houses in which repairs were carried out	34
Houses which were modernised and brought up to standard with the aid of a Discretionary Improvement Grant	81
Houses in which standard amenities were installed for the first time, with the aid of Standard Improvement Grant ...	41

CARAVANS

The number of Caravan Sites licensed under the Caravan Sites Control of Development Act, 1960, increased during the year from 19 to 23, the new ones being made up of short-term site Licences each for one caravan only.

In general, no problems were encountered with sites failing to comply with conditions and standards, but even with the site for itinerants at Aston Flamville now being fully operational, there were still some problems from itinerants causing accumulations of debris and litter on the road-side and verges, although there has been some improvement. It is felt that the problem will not be completely alleviated until more sites are provided in other parts of Leicestershire and also the adjoining Counties.

11. HEALTH & SAFETY AT WORK

The Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963

During the year 127 inspections were made in relation to the above legislation, including visits to 8 new premises. Two accidents were investigated, neither being of a serious nature.

The Health and Safety at Work Act, which was passed in 1974, provides new powers in relation to all persons at work, and affects all workers including the self-employed. Under the new Act, Regulations and Codes of Practice will be made to supersede and improve the present legislation, and there is a possibility that some work at present carried out by the Factory Inspectorate will pass to the Public Health Department in relation to certain premises.

	NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
Offices	239
Retail shops	742
Wholesale departments, warehouses	55
Catering establishments open to the public	525
Canteens	2
Fuel storage depots	3
TOTAL:	1,566
Total: (males)	683
Total: (females)	883

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS		
Section	Number of Contraventions Found	
4	Cleanliness	1
5	Overcrowding	-
6	Temperature	1
7	Ventilation	1
8	Lighting	-
9	Sanitary conveniences	1
10	Washing facilities	2
11	Supply of drinking water	-
12	Clothing accommodation	-
13	Sitting facilities	-
14	Seats (sedentary workers)	1
15	Eating facilities	-
16	Floors, passage and stairs	1
17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	-
18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
24	First aid	2
	Hoists and lifts	-
	Other matters	1
	TOTAL:	11

11. (continued)

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

Byelaws are in operation made by the Council under the Public Health Act for securing cleanliness in hairdressing and barbers' premises, and in general the 41 premises in the District were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES

The control of factories in the main is exercised by the Factory Inspectorate and the responsibility of the Council in relation to the welfare of factory employees is limited to sanitary accommodation, and the application of the Food Hygiene Regulations where there are canteen facilities.

Regular inspections are carried out in connection with the latter, but only 61 visits were made to inspect sanitary accommodation.

Outworkers

There were 176 outworkers, being 58 employed by firms within the District and 118 by firms from outside, representing various trades but principally hosiery, boot and shoe, underwear and clothing.

12. ANIMAL WELFARE

The health and welfare of various animals is controlled by the Council by the issue of annual licences as follows:-

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951	1 Shop
ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT 1963	10 Premises for cats and dogs
RIDING ESTABLISHMENT ACTS 1964 & 1970	7 Premises for horses
BREEDING OF DOGS ACT 1974	8 Premises for the breeding of dogs

The Breeding of Dogs Act came into operation on 1st April, 1974, and affects premises where more than two breeding bitches are kept, and the duties imposed by The Riding Establishment Acts were transferred to the District Council on reorganisation.

All the various premises were inspected prior to new licences being issued, or existing licences renewed, and were found to satisfy the recommended standards.

oooooooooooooooooooo
oooooooooooo
o

Produced and Printed at the Offices

of the

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

NARBOROUGH

LEICESTER

oooo
o

